PACE Association of Michigan

November 29, 2018

Testimony in Support of House Bill 6551
House Committee on Families, Children, and Seniors

Madam Chair and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 6551.

My name is Luke Reynolds and I am the Board Chair of the PACE Association of Michigan as well as the Executive Director for LifeCircles PACE, located in both Muskegon and Holland.

THANK YOU For your ongoing support of PACE programs throughout the State. For those of you who are not familiar, PACE is an alternative to Nursing Home care. This unique model is both the health insurer and the comprehensive care provider. We provide all the care and services needed for low-income, chronically-ill, aging adults, to remain independent in their homes and the community.

With me today is Mary Naber, President/ CEO of PACE Southeast Michigan.

PACE SE Michigan, is sponsored by Henry Ford Health System and Presbyterian Villages of Michigan, and serves nearly 850 older adults in Southeast Michigan with locations in Detroit, Warren, Dearborn, Southfield and Sterling Heights.

PACE organizations have been growing to meet the needs of the communities we serve. We are here to ask for your support of Michigan's current application process and approach which authorizes **one PACE organization per service area**.

Michigan's approach is based on federal regulation which suggests one PACE program per service area to ensure limited Medicaid dollars are spent on participant care while avoiding unnecessary duplication of services.

As our State's population continues to age, the need for PACE services will continue to grow. Remaining at home with community-based services like PACE, is the most effective and affordable long-term care option for the state. We know that Michigan PACE organizations provide vulnerable, chronically ill, low-income seniors with the highest quality care in the most affordable manner. We urge you to support House Bill 6551.

Thank you and we would be happy to answer any questions you may have.